[1789, Mar. 3]

Rome March 3^d 1789 99

Dr Sir

Letters which I have lately received from America determine me to carry into execution my Project of going into Spain & Portugal, about which I doubted when I last had the pleasure of writing to you — Mr Short & myself will leave Rome early on the morrow for Florence; we think of remaining there but a very few days, & hope to be arrived at Marseilles by the first of the ensuing month. It is uncertain whether we will separate at Marseilles or at Bourdeaux, as I have not yet determined whether I shall go from Marseilles to Perpignan, & so on to Barcelona &c. or embark at Bourdeaux and enter Spain at Bayonne; I shall prefer the last, if the season be not too much advanced, as it will give me an opportunity of navigating the Canal of Languedoc, which is, from all accounts a wonderful work, & of seeing all the South of France — At the time of my leaving Paris I regarded the going to Spain & Portugal as being very uncertain, and did not provide myself with introductory Letters for those Countries; & as the seeing Places without proper introductions, & seeing them with them are almost as different as the seeing them, & the not seeing them at all, I take the liberty to request that you will procure for me letters to

8047

Madrid

Rutledge John Jr.

Madrid & Lisbon? the sentiments of friendship you have frequently been good as to express for me, & the many occasions on which y[ou] have honored me with your protection & kindness, encou[rage] me in now thus importuning you, & have laid a just found[ation] for the great attachment with which I am & ever shall [be]

Your sincere friend & very humble Servt.

J Rutledge junior

His Excellency
T Jefferson Esqr